

MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

1. Forwarded herewith is my recommendation to the National Security Council in connection with implementation of the National Security Act of 1947 on assumption by the Council of its functions. I feel these recommendations are within my prerogative to make and are required to maintain continuity of Central Intelligence functions. There are set forth below two further suggestions which may be outside my prerogative but which would, I feel, be of sufficient importance to bring to the attention of the Council for its early consideration.

(a) Active direction was given to the Central Intelligence Group by the four voting members of the National Intelligence Authority. The National Security Act of 1947 sets forth the duties of the National Intelligence Agency and specifically that that they are to be performed under the direction of the National Security Council. It is felt that the size of the National Security Council would prevent the detailed direction by it, as a body, so necessary to the proper conduct of the National Intelligence mission. It is suggested that such direction would be better afforded by the establishment of a sub-committee of the National Security Council to consist of the Secretary of State and the Secretary of National Defense. This sub-committee would act in the name of the National Security Council

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in matters relating to the functions of the Central Intelligence Agency.

(b) The Director of Central Intelligence sat as a non-voting member of the National Intelligence Authority and found this relationship most useful to the proper performance of his duties. The Central Intelligence Agency is by law under and not a part of the National Security Council, and the Director of Central Intelligence should not participate in the policy decisions of the Council. It is felt however, that his presence at Council meetings in a purely advisory capacity, would continue a practice heretofore useful to his mission and one which it is felt would be of assistance to the Council in its consideration of problems affected by foreign intelligence.

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Director of Central Intelligence